

**NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FEBRUARY 25, 2004

***Suspended Youth Corrections Officer Charged In Case***

Youth Corrections Officer Kathleen Liden, age 33, a three-year veteran of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections was taken into custody late this afternoon at her home in Mesa, by investigators from the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections, with assistance from the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, the Phoenix Police Department Sex Crimes Unit, and the Mesa Police Department. After a lengthy investigation, it is alleged that Ms. Liden was involved in unlawful conduct with an incarcerated youth.

Suspect Liden was interviewed, transported and booked into the Maricopa County Jail on two counts of **Unlawful sexual conduct; correctional employees; persons in custody; classification** (ARS 13-1419; Class 3 Felonies).

The investigation into this matter is continuing, as it is suspected that events began in 2003. Detectives are trying to determine if there are additional victims. Investigators are requesting that anyone with additional information to please contact Interim Director, Michael Branham, at (602) 542-4302.

Ms. Liden had been on administrative leave from the Department since February 17, 2004.

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